

CITY of
SPRINGFIELD



May 20, 1991

Mr. Bill Gaddy
Modern Mailing Systems, Inc.
1938 E. Meadowmere
Springfield, MO 65804

Dear Mr. Gaddy:

Last week Gene Pabst and I investigated an odor complaint at your business. While we were there we noticed a couple of plumbing problems: the air conditioner condensate tube discharges into an open sewer pipe and the sink in the back room is not trapped.

The fact that gases can enter your building from the sewer indicates that potentially serious health and safety hazards exist on your premises, and steps should be taken to correct this problem. Some of the most common dangerous gases that exist in the sewer and their hazards (from the Manual of Instruction for Sewage Treatment Plant Operators) are:

Carbon Monoxide - Colorless, odorless, non-irritating. Flammable, explosive. Hemoglobin of the blood has a strong affinity for the gas, causing oxygen starvation in the tissues.

Hydrogen - Colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-poisonous. Flammable, explosive. Propagates flame rapidly. Acts mechanically to deprive the tissues of oxygen. A simple asphyxiant.

Methane - Colorless, odorless, non-poisonous. Flammable, explosive.

Hydrogen Sulfide - Rotten egg odor in small concentrations. Colorless, poisonous. Flammable, explosive.

Carbon Dioxide - Colorless, odorless, non-flammable. Not generally present in dangerous amounts unless there is a deficiency of oxygen.

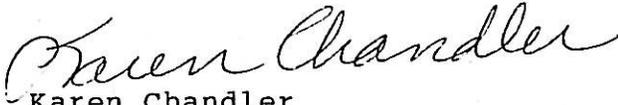
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There are, of course, many other substances that can be present in the sanitary sewer. However, plumbing in good repair is designed to prevent sewer gas from venting back into the building.

If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Yours Truly,



Karen Chandler
Water Pollution Control Inspector
Surveillance and Enforcement

KC/jb

cc: Mr. Steve Meyer, P.E., Sanitary Engineer
Mr. Randy Lyman, Sewer Surveillance & Billing Supervisor
Mr. Joe Harmon, Health Dept.
Mr. B. Borgstadt, Building Regulations

City of Springfield
Water Pollution Control Section
Pollution Complaint/Report Form

Date 5/13/91

Report From:

- Citizen
 Fire Dept
 Sewer Maintenance
 Other

Received By: R. L. Gandy

Referred To: G. PABST

Date of Incident: 5/13/91

Complainant Information:

Name BILL GADDY Meadowmere
Address 1938 E. Sunshine
Phone 864-7797
Directions (if needed)

Responsible Party Information:

Name
Address
Phone

Possible contamination of: soil groundwater
 surface water what body?
 other SEWER

Other Pertinent Information

Who to contact:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DNR 417-883-4033 | <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Schaefer | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Const |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DNR 314-634-2436 | <input type="checkbox"/> CU 831-8320 | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemtrec 800-424-9300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EPA 913-236-3378 | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Dept | <input type="checkbox"/> DOT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Dept 864-1719 | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Dept | <input type="checkbox"/> NRC 312-790-5500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Police Dept 864-1719 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Maint | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Details of Incident: PETROLEUM ODDOR

Action needed: INVESTIGATE AND CHECK OUT REFINISHING PLANT

KAREN & I went to Modern Mailing Systems, Inc. on 5-14-91
at approximately 10:30 A.M. We talked to Mr. Bill Gaddy about
the problem. He explained that the problem comes & goes.
Yesterday was strong. C&W Engine Rebuilders is next door.

1938 E. Meadowmere

Investigation Results

Mr. Gaddy said that he has gone to C&W when he was having a problem, but they were not having a problem and there was no smell in their building.

We walked through the building and found what appeared to be 2 (two) plumbing violations: 1) A sink in the back room does not have a trap on the drain, 2) Air Conditioner Condensation line discharges directly into an open sewer plug with no means to seal the pipes together. We told Mr. Gaddy that he should properly fix these and that in the mean time to seal both of these problems with duct tape.

We were going to go next door to C&W to talk to them about their disposal of Solvents, but Mr. Gaddy stated that he already has had several run ins with them. We told Mr. Gaddy that we would talk to D.N.R. to see if they had a Haz Waste Gen. No. Mr. Gaddy said that he sees Safety Kleen trucks backup to the dock behind C&W every now and then.

We gave Mr. Gaddy our card and told him to call if the problem happens again. We will check the sewer line in the area periodically. We did check the sanitary sewer in the front & back of Modern Mailing Systems and could smell nothing.

Gene Pabst

Investigation Results

5-16-91 8:00 A.M. Mr. Gaddy called to say his building had the odor he was talking about. We told him we would come out. When we arrived we checked the sanitary sewer in front & back of his building. We smelled nothing. When we entered the building we could smell something, but could not tell what it was. Mr. Gaddy indicated that he thought the smell was coming from his neighbors (C & W Engine Rebuilders) through the outlets in the block wall between them. He said he could feel a breeze around the outlet & smell the odor coming through. Karen & I were not sure about if we could smell it.

Mr. Gaddy did not have his plumbing problems corrected, not even temporarily with duct tape.

Mr. Gaddy said that he was going to caulk around the outlets to stop the smell. He seemed to be more concerned with fixing the outlets, than with getting his plumbing corrected.

We told Mr. Gaddy that if he had the smell in his building again and he wanted us to check his building and the sanitary sewer, to give us a call.

Gene Patot